

Minutes
Parks and Recreation Board
March 26, 1991 - 6:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on March 26, 1991 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Department Board Room, 1500 W. Riverside Drive. Board Members present: Neil Iscoe, ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres, Terry Colgan, Beverly Griffith, Lawrence Britton, Phil Friday, Charles Gandy, Agnes Edwards and Ron Cartlidge. Board Members absent: Fred Lewis and James Crump. Staff present: Manuel Mollinedo, Stuart Strong, Dennis Bleier, Rick Fuszek, Jody Hamilton, Kit von Wupperfeld, and Donna Bohls.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Beverly Griffith presiding.

MINUTES

The minutes for the regular meeting of 2/26/91 and special called meeting of 3/4/91 were approved as submitted.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Sam Rivers, Texas Rowing Concessionaire, addressed the Board regarding the problems being caused by motor boat wakes on Town Lake. These are the boats used by the coaches of rowing teams. He suggested limiting the size of the motors and using large stickers to easily identify motorboats with permits to operate on Town Lake. Mr. Rivers also addressed the need for additional storage at his concession.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Kay Sheffield, Unit Manager, Senior Programs, updated the Board on the status of a request to expand the name of the Senior Activity Senior to the "T" Galyean Senior Activity Center.

Bill May and George Bray, both members of the Senior Activity Center, addressed the Board on the naming issue. Mr. May spoke against the proposal and Mr. Bray indicated that he would share his opinion at a later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ron Cartlidge, Chair of the Navigation Committee, reported that the Navigation Committee had met to review a request from Mr. ---- Kubick to build a boat dock. The Committee requested that Peter Marsh, Staff Engineer, send a letter to the applicant informing him that the project was not feasible.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Beverly Griffith announced that the Austin Area Garden Council has appointed a Park Maintenance Advocacy Committee to work with the Parks and

Recreation Board in trying to obtain additional maintenance funds from Council.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mollinedo introduced Nancy Coplin, Chair of the Music Commission; French Smith, Music Commission member; and Ester Matthews, Council Aide in Max Nofziger's Office to the Parks Board. Nancy Coplin and French Smith addressed the Board regarding the proposed memorial project for Stevie Ray Vaughan. The Music Commission is working very closely with Mr. Vaughan's family to design an appropriate memorial to be placed on parkland. The proposed site for the meditation garden and statue is on the grounds of Palmer Auditorium overlooking Auditorium Shores. Plans are still in the preliminary state but will be finalized soon. All of the costs of construction are to be from private funds. Enough funds are to be raised to provide an endowment for the project to ensure its future maintenance costs. Mr. Chris Fessler, Deputy Director of the Convention Center Department, addressed the Board and expressed support for the project. All construction plans are to be coordinated with the Convention Center. Parks Board members expressed initial support for the project and will take formal action at their April 8th meeting.

ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS

Continuation of Public Hearing on Concession in Zilker Park

There were no citizens to give testimony at the public hearing; therefore, it was closed.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Annexation of Springwoods Municipal Utility District

Stuart Strong made the staff presentation on the proposed annexation. Phil Friday made a motion to approve the MUD's request for annexation of the 8.2 acre parcel. The motion was seconded by Charles Gandy and passed unanimously.

Rowboat Concession and Carousel Concession

Neil Iscoe addressed the Board about proceeding with the public comment phase on the rowboat and carousel concessions. John Gallager, potential rowboat concessionaire, addressed the Board and encouraged that they proceed with these concessions. Neil Iscoe made a motion to hold a public hearing on May 28 on the proposed row boat and carousel concessions. The motion was seconded by Agnes Edwards and passed unanimously.

Assurance of Financial Stability for Land, Facilities and Park Programs

Board Members discussed the possible methods of addressing the budget shortfall and associated reductions for the Parks Department. The Programs Committee was assigned the task of reviewing all fees and charges. The Committee is to have a final report ready within 45 days to present to the full Board. Phil Friday made the following motion in response to the City Manager's request to further cut the PARD budget. The motion was seconded by Ron Cartlidge and passed unanimously.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS the Parks and Recreation Department budget has been cut in each of the past six years; and

WHEREAS public usage of parks is at an all time high; and

WHEREAS, as a result, basic parks facilities are suffering serious degradation and basic programs have been cut to the bone; and

WHEREAS additional budget cuts will reduce facility maintenance and program operation below acceptable limits;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Parks and Recreation Department be excused from having to make any additional budget cuts other than in the following areas:

- Closing Palm Pool
- Backcharges to other Departments wherever possible
- Increase CIP Charges
- Vacancy Savings from AIPP Position
- Miscellaneous Reductions

WE FURTHER RESOLVE that no fee increases be required in any case.

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned.